

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 03977 251103Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SOE-02 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00  
COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 DOE-15 H-01 INR-10 INT-05  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-05 ICA-11 OES-07  
SP-02 SS-15 STR-07 TRSE-00 ACDA-12 /128 W  
-----111972 251951Z /73

R 250847Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2063  
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
AMCONSUL ADANA  
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL  
AMCONSUL IZMIR  
AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI  
USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST  
USDOCOSOUTH  
USCINCEUR

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PEPR, PLOS, EMIN, TU  
SUBJ: AMERICAN COMPANY PLANS TO DRILL FOR OIL IN AEGEAN

REF: ANKARA 3919

1. MAY 20 MILLIYET CARRIED BRIEF REPORT THAT FOUR LICENSES  
HAVE BEEN GIVEN TO AN AMERICAN FIRM, DORCHESTER GAS CORPORATION,  
FOR PETROLEUM EXPLORATION IN THE AEGEAN SEA NEAR IZMIR, WITH  
EXPLORATION TO BEGIN IN JUNE.

2. IN VISIT TO EMBASSY IN EARLY MAY, DORCHESTER OFFICIALS  
CONFIRMED THAT LICENSES HAD BEEN GIVEN AND ASSURED US THAT  
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EXPLORATION WILL BE STRICTLY CONFINED TO TURKISH TERRITORIAL  
WATERS. DORCHESTER HAS BEEN OPERATING IN TURKEY FOR SEVERAL  
YEARS AND IS FULLY AWARE OF DISPUTE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY  
OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS OF THE AEGEAN.

3. DORCHESTER OFFICIALS SAID EXPLORATION WOULD BE  
CARRIED OUT BY A DRILLING SHIP WHICH WAS BEING OUTFITTED IN

MALTA. EXACT DATE WHEN SHIP WOULD BE TRANSFERRED FROM MALTA TO THE AEGEAN COULD NOT BE DETERMINED, BUT IS LIKELY TO BE WITHIN A FEW WEEKS FROM THE PRESENT.

4. COMMENT: ARRIVAL OF DRILLING SHIP IN THE AEGEAN MAY COINCIDE WITH OR PROCEED MAJOR STAGE OF CONGRESSIONAL CONSIDERATION OF ADMINISTRATION'S EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN PROPOSALS. WHILE INTENDED OPERATIONS SEEM CLEARLY WITHIN THE LAW, WE PRESUME THE MERE FACT OF TURKISH DRILLING ANYWHERE IN THE AEGEAN COULD SET OFF GREEK PROTESTS DIRECTED AT CONGRESS.  
DILLON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** OILS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 25 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978ANKARA03977  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780221-0713  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** ANKARA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780521/aaaaarnq.tel  
**Line Count:** 73  
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**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 4dff4497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 ANKARA 3919  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2579078  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AMERICAN COMPANY PLANS TO DRILL FOR OIL IN AEGEAN  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PLOS, EMIN, TU, US, DORCHESTER GAS CORP  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/4dff4497-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014